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DEC 21 2004

Jan Arthur Aunc et al.
USSN: 10/646,507
Filed August 23, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of)	Examiner Tu Ba Hoang
Jan Arthur Aunc et al.)	Group Art Unit 3742
Serial No. 10/646,507)	Confirmation No.: 9659
Filed August 23, 2003)	Atty. Docket No.: 03-0668
For Electrode Arrangement As Substitute)	ESCM 370108-00048
Bottom For An Electrothermic Slag)	Response Under 37 CFR 1.116
Smelting Furnace)	Expedited Procedure
)	Examining Group 3742

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

Eckert Scamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC
Alcoa Technical Center
100 Technical Drive
Alcoa Center, PA 15069

December 21, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Amendment After Final Rejection

Sir:

This is in response to the Final Rejection Office Action dated October 5, 2004, in connection with the above-captioned application. The Office Action has been carefully reviewed, and the following response offered in attempt to advance the case to allowance. Reconsideration and early allowance of all pending claims in light of the following amendments and remarks is courteously requested. Claims 5 and 8 and claims